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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

DESTA, ELIAS

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2857

DATE MAILED: 05/08/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/552,117

Applicant(s)

DUDUMAN, BOGDAN M.

Examiner

Elias Desta

Art Unit

2857

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 April 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 1.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

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Detailed Action

Claim rejection - 35 U.S.C 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

2. Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (a) as being unpatentable over National LM2637

In reference to claims 1, 6 and 11: National LM2637 datasheet teaches an integrated circuit for monitoring and controlling multiple power outputs from a power supply that generates a primary power voltage (V_{CC}), and one more secondary power voltage (V_{DD}) derived from the primary power voltage (see National LM2637 Fig. 2, and page 8-9 application information).

National LM2637 has an input means for receiving the primary and secondary power voltages (V_{CC} and V_{DD}) from the power supply (see Pin Description in page 8). The integrated circuit has a means for controlling the primary and secondary power voltages to generate controlled voltage power outputs (see National LM2637 page 8, pin 16-20, and overview first paragraph).

In page 2 of National LM2637, the integrated circuit consists of threshold variables (V_{CC-TH1} and V_{CC-TH2}) with corresponding limit values for the primary power source. The threshold variables and the limiting values constitute a means for sensing when the primary power voltage reaches or exceeds a threshold reference level. Further, the National LM2637 also has a means for delaying connection of the primary and secondary power voltages to the controlled voltage

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Art Unit: 2857

power outputs for selected delay time after the primary power voltage reaches the reference threshold level. (See page 8, theory of operation, start up, first paragraph.)

With regard to claims 2, 7 and 12: the National LM2637 has a means for generating a power up signal for indicating that all the monitored output voltages of the monitored power supply are at or above a useable and effective voltage level through 'Over Voltage Protection' output signal. (See page 8, pin 11, and 'over voltage protection, page 9 to 10).

With regard to claims 3, 8 and 13: National LM2637 has a means for comparing includes a voltage divider (see page 5, Fig. 1 pin number 21 and 22 where V_{CC} is supplied to EA, and two resistors with 35.2 and 36 k Ω are used as a voltage divider where SNS3 is one of the output voltages), and a comparator (also shown in page 5, Fig. 1, labeled as 'UV3'). Since one input of UV3 is tied to a threshold 0.63 volt, it implies that the threshold reference voltage, and the comparator 'UV3' are coupled together. Further more, the voltage divider is coupled through the comparator logic, and current limiting circuit, which shows the voltage divider, is coupled to the primary power voltage and to the comparator.

With regard to claims 4 and 9: the National LM2637 has a delaying means that consist of a timing circuit (see page 5, Fig. 1, an oscillator with a clock generator, and clock input to the logic block), and the output of the comparator is coupled to the timing circuit for delaying connection of the input power supply voltages to the controlled outputs for the selected delay time (see Fig. 1, and 'Theory of Operation' pages 8 and 9).

With regard to claims 5, 10 and 15: the National LM2637 has a linear controller for controlling the output voltage of each of the power output voltages of the power monitor circuit (see 'under-voltage latch-off' discussion on page 10). Further, National LM2637 also has two

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Art Unit: 2857

linear controllers with each linear controller controlling voltage of one of the power output voltages of the power monitor circuit. (See page 8, 2nd column, under 'linear section'.)

With regard to claim 14: the National LM2637 datasheet teaches the comparator means has a timing circuit (see Fig. 1, pin 12 and 13, the same ramp clock signal) that is used to time an interval starting when the voltage divided signal exceeds the threshold reference signal and delaying connection of the controlled voltage power outputs to the computer for selected delay time (see page 9-10, 'over-voltage protection').

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Elias Desta whose telephone number is (703)-305-3840. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00-4:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Marc S. Hoff can be reached on (703)-308-1677. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703)-308-5841 for regular communications and (703)-308-5841 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)-308-1782.

Elias Desta
Examiner
Art Unit 2857

-ed

May 3, 2002


MARC S. HOFF
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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